

11/a
B. Webb
1/23/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Inventor: J. H. Burbank, et al.

Serial No.: 09/865,905

Filed: May 24,2001

For: Fluid Processing Systems and Methods
Using Extracorporeal Fluid Flow Panels
Oriented Within a Cartridge

Group Art Unit: 3762

Examiner: BIANCO, Patricia

Atty. Docket: 53951-025

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

In response to the restriction requirement mailed 8/29/2003. please amend the application
as proposed and enter the election indicated as follows.

RESTRICTION AND PROVISIONAL ELECTION

Restriction

The Office Action identified three classes of invention as follows:

Class I: Claims 1-25 and 28-32,

Class II: Claim 26, and

Class III: Claim 27.

Applicants hereby elect Class I.

Provisional Election

The Office Action identified four classes of species to which the invention will be restricted if a generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The claims have been amended so that they all fall under a species which is substantially the same as the second, labeled B.